Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIA-06 CU-02 SCCT-01 SY-05 FBIE-00

USSS-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CPR-01 SS-15 /050 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:TPHDUNLOP/LVA APPROVED BY EUR/EE:NGANDREWS USIA:DKORDECK

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, PFOR, RO

SUBJECT: JUNE 30 PROTEST AT ROMANIAN LIBRARY IN NYC

- 1. ON JULY 1 MITRAN OF ROMANIAN EMBASSY CALLED ON SHIRLEY AT USIA AT AMBASSADOR BOGDAN'S BEHEST TO REPORT AND COMPLAIN OF A DEMONSTRATION WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING THE EVENING OF JUNE 30 AT THE ROMANIAN LIBRARY IN NYC. AS DESCRIBED BY MITRAN, THE INCIDENT WAS "TRULY ALARMING." ABOUT 20 PERSONS EQUIPPED WITH A BULLHORN AND SHOUTING "POLITICAL" SLOGANS, ATTACKING PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU, COMMUNISM, ETC., BLOCKED ACCESS TO THE LIBRARY WHERE AN EVENING FILM SHOWING HAD BEEN SCHEDULED. THE DEMONSTRATORS ALLEGEDLY ENTERED THE LIBRARY ITSELF, PREVENTING THE FILM FROM BEING SHOWN. THERE WAS SOME JOSTLING. NO PROPERTY DAMAGE OR INJURIES REPORTED.
- 2. MITRAN SAID THE NYPD RESPONDED "RATHER PROMPTLY" WITH FOUR SQUAD CARS. A "SAFETY CORDON" WAS SET UP TO ENABLE PEOPLE TO DEPART THE LIBRARY PREMISES, BUT SHOUTING AND "VERBAL ABUSE" CONTINUED FOR ABOUT AN HOUR. MITRAN SAID LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT IT IS HIS PERSONAL FEELING THAT "IF THE USG CANNOT

PREVENT THEM FROM DEMONSTRATING, AT LEAST THEY CAN BE KEPT FROM THE LIBRARY BUILDING."

- 3. MITRAN SAID FIVE OF THE DEMONSTRATORS WERE IDENTIFIED: V. DUMITRASCU; MIRCEA CONSINGEANU; VLAD STANESCU; V. APOSTOLIU (COSTIN JUREA?); DAN MOLDOVAN. THESE HE SAID WERE ALL DIVIDED FAMILY CASES WHICH "HAVE BEEN SOLVED."
- 4. WE HAVE ALERTED SY AND REQUESTED USUAL FOLLOW-UP WITH NYPD AND FBI, TO INCLUDE INTERVIEWS WITH THOSE PROTESTORS WHO CAN BE LOCATED. WE HAVE ADDRESSES FOR STANESCU AND MOLDOVAN WHICH WE ARE PROVIDING THE POLICE.
- 5. NO FORMAL PROTEST HAS YET BEEN RECEIVED. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, LIBRARIES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 01 JUL 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE155576

Document Number: 1975STATE155576 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: TPHDUNLOP/LVA

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: D750228-0506 From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750794/aaaadgcy.tel

Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: ShawDG

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 11 JUN 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <21 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: JUNE 30 PROTEST AT ROMANIAN LIBRARY IN NYC TAGS: OEXC, PFOR, RO, US
To: BUCHAREST

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006